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and owner) is a Singapore-built teak schooner, made specially for exploration, 40 tons register and drawing  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet. In her these two ardent explorers left Singapore in October, 1900, called at Penang, coasted Tenasserim among the islands of the Mergui archipelago, crossed the Bay of Bengal to Barren island, and slowly journeyed among the Andamans and Nicobars, making collections and observations. Returning they touched at Acheen, northern Sumatra. In this review it is concerned specially with the ethnology. On Barren island they met the Aka-Balawa, a fading remnant of Negritos, and sailed for Port Blair, in South Andaman. From this point southward they stopped at favorable places, making collections and obtaining photographs. The people of this group, as is well known, are Negritos, scarcely 58 inches in stature. On January 21, 1901, the *Terrapin* anchored in Sawi bay, Kar Nicobar, less than a hundred miles from Little Andaman. But in this brief distance, people, houses, dress, customs, arts, all were changed. The Nicobarese have yellow-brown skin and straight hair, they are of medium stature (64 inches), are Malayan in type and culture, and look southward for their ethnic relationships. There are two types of these natives—the Shom Pen, supposed by Kloss to be the aborigines, and the coast people, who are supposed to have a small proportion of many varieties of mankind that have touched at their islands, grafted on the Malay stock. These are dying out. The author faithfully and minutely records his own observations and has gathered what is worth saving in the literature of the subject. Dampier's account of his romantic sojourn in the islands and miraculous escape in 1688 is reproduced in full.

The author and Dr Abbott passed in and out among the natives freely, setting traps, shooting specimens, and collecting ethnographic material, hence photographing was easy. The reader walks with the narrator everywhere, so that it is as good as a visit to have Mr Kloss tell the story. In the appendix will be found a table of mammals, by Mr Gerrit S. Miller, of the U. S. National Museum, and a list of birds from the latest publications. The volume is in excellent style and forms a much-needed handbook on the Andamans and Nicobars.

O. T. MASON.

*Shell-heaps of Lower Fraser River, British Columbia.* By HARLAN I. SMITH. (Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History, Volume IV.) New York: March, 1903. 4°.

This well-illustrated memoir, which is another of the publications of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition, is a welcome and important addition

to the literature of American shell-heaps, and the author deserves the thanks of all students of archeology for the thorough manner in which he has performed his task.

The shell-heaps described are shown to be sometimes miles in length and are commonly about thirty yards wide and three or four feet in depth, although there are instances in which the shell deposits are nine feet in thickness. As indicative of the age of the shell-heaps, Mr Smith records the occurrence in one of them of a tree-stump more than seven feet in diameter, while another, measuring four feet, showed four hundred rings of growth. The great antiquity attributed by the author to the heaps, however, will probably not meet with general approval, long and continued study in many fields and under various conditions being necessary to satisfactorily settle this question of age.

A feature of British Columbia shell-heaps, which is quite unusual in such deposits along the Atlantic slope, is the occurrence of alternating layers of shells and mold, those of the east being of shells only. The shells in the British Columbia heaps are chiefly those of clams and mussels, but some oyster shells are also found.

Except a few articles of native copper no metal was discovered. The implements found appear to be generally similar to those used by the modern Indians of the region and consist of wedges, whetstones, harpoon and arrow points, knives, etc. The material of which the implements are made is usually bone or antler and stone, while the types are in most respects similar to those found in the shell-heaps of the Atlantic coast. Some shell implements were also found by Mr Smith. Both chipped and ground objects are common, and carving as well as etching of bone tools prevails. A number of detachable harpoon points were found at Eburne; the collection contains also specimens of stone partially sawed, examples of which are illustrated in the memoir. Pipes of the tubular variety from Port Hammond are also figured, but these were probably found on the surface rather than in the heaps. Stone mortars from Eburne with sculptured heads indicate considerable advancement in aboriginal art, and in some respects are not unlike those found in ruins of Central America.

J. D. McGUIRE.

*Syrian Songs, Proverbs, and Stories. Collected, translated, and annotated.*

By HENRY MINOR HUXLEY. (From the Journal of the American Oriental Society, vol. XXIII, 1902, pp. 175-288.)

This collection of popular poetry, comprising 116 numbers, was recorded by the author, from their recital by a native, while sojourning in